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N.L.H.  
5-903



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 3063.0396-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
John E. EBY et al. )  
Serial No.: 09/287,631 )  
Filed: April 7, 1999 )  
For: SURFACE COVERINGS HAVING )  
A NATURAL APPEARANCE AND )  
METHODS TO MAKE A SURFACE )  
COVERING HAVING A NATURAL )  
APPEARANCE )

RECEIVED  
MAY 07 2003  
GROUP 1700  
Group Art Unit: 1732  
Examiner: A. Kuhns

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

In response to the Office Action dated November 5, 2002, the period for response to which having been extended three-months to May 5, 2003, by the petition and fee filed herewith, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and continued examination of this application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 53 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

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